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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

APR 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

Honorable Floyd D. Spence
House of Representatives
2405 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Spence:

This is in reply to your letter of March 15, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituents' letters will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Shiben
Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

No. of Copies rec'd 2 copies
List ABCDE

Congressional

DUE: 3-31-93

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AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
03/24/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA (857)
9301338	03/24/93	03/15/93	04/13/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Floyd Spence	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/CM 3-25			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
03/24/93			

REMARKS:

FLOYD SPENCE
2D DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

WASHINGTON OFFICE
2405 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202, 225-2452

DISTRICT OFFICES
5000 THURMOND MALL

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

PRG
92-235
1338

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

COUNTIES
BAMBERG LEXINGTON
CALHOUN ORANGEBURG
RICHLAND

February 5, 1993

The Honorable Floyd Spence
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC. 20510

FEB 17 1993

Dear Mr. Spence:

For the past 23 yrs. and 10 yrs. since my retirement, I have enjoyed building and flying Radio Controlled Model Airplanes. At 71 this has been an affordable way to stay with aviation.

I am greatly concerned about PR Docket 92-235, Notice of Proposed Rule Making, by the Federal Communication Commission-FCC. If implemented would make it impossible for us to safely fly our models, (on 72 MHz) which have a wing span of 6-14 ft. and weigh up to 50 lbs.

I urge you and your staff to read all PR-92-235 information sent to your office by the Industry, Academy of Model Aeronautics, etc. Much of aviation uses this system for tests, also the remote planes, and operators, used in the Gulf War originated from this system.

We have just gone through a Radio Unit modification & Frequency change that made our Units prior to 1991 obsolete, so that we might have the safest flying conditions.

We number in the hundreds of thousands flying R/C Planes, (age 7-up) with hundreds of small businesses selling only this type of equipment, and also many major distributors of the same. Hundreds of flying sites and the expense of there development and our equipment would be lost.

My interest in airplanes started when I went to a Aero school and received my FAA A/P License, and later FAA commerical/instructor pilot license, served 3 yrs. with 8th AF 44th BG (B-24;32 missions), 6 yrs. with SCANG and the call up in 1949-50.

Thank you for your attention, and not allowing the FCC to make this change.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Padgett Jr.
3233 Harrison Rd.
Columbia, SC. 29204

(803) 782-1687

JANUARY 29, 1993

The Honorable Floyd Spence
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Spence:

I am an active member of a local club called CONGAREE FLYERS. I and my fellow members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes. I am also a member of the ACADEMY of MODEL AERONAUTICS which is a national group of people with similar interests.

I was recently alerted that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering Proposed Rule Making PR Docket 92-235 and if adopted this will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model aircraft use. This will increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model aircraft.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Under PR Docket 92-235 the FCC will create more land mobile frequencies by dividing them into narrower band widths and rearranging the band plan. This narrowing will cause land mobile frequencies to move closer to our radio control frequencies. So close, in fact, that interference between the two will be inevitable with potentially dangerous results.

When flying our model aircraft, we are expected to operate them with the utmost in safety. Precautions are taken by the pilots to ensure that no two aircraft which use the same frequency are operated at the same time. We now have only 50 frequencies which we can legally use. If this PR Docket 92-235 is adopted, we will only have 19 frequencies.

Many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and can weigh 40 pounds. Besides being expensive to build, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control.

Continued

We often fly our model aircraft at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of, and risk to, radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment, which generates tax revenues when we purchase them. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment and comradery to thousands of people like myself and even contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry. Radio controlled aircraft have also been used in military surveillance operations.

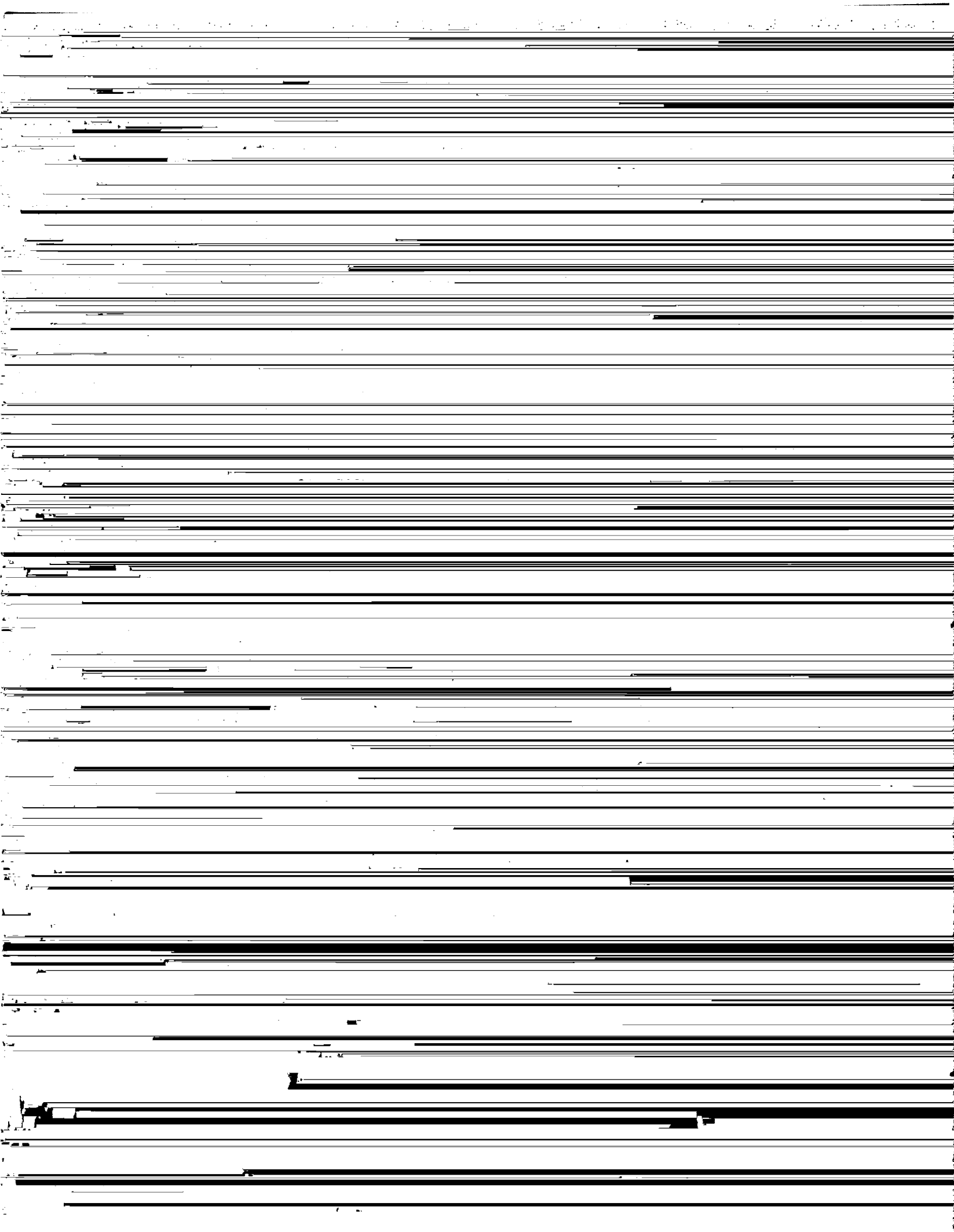
Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. If you wish to speak directly to me concerning my request for your help in this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Donald A. Schumpert
1092 Lynn Drive
West Columbia, SC
29170
803-796-1161 Home
803-783-0110 Work

ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS
License # 328867



Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

Jim Merrill

FEB 12 1993

The Honorable Floyd Spence
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Spence:

I am a 46 year old professional pilot who derives many hours of enjoyment during my off time by constructing and flying radio controlled model aircraft. Unfortunately, I have just been advised of a proposed rule change by the FCC (PR Docket 92-235) that will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model aircraft.

The frequencies used by radio control modelers are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. The transmitters used in these operations are up to 4 times more powerful than the equipment used for radio controlled models. Up until now the frequencies have been far enough apart that modelers and land mobile operations have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to radio control model frequencies causing interference to radio control operations. It is estimated that more than half of the frequencies available for radio control airplanes will be adversely affected.

I and my fellow modelers go to great lengths to ensure the safety of operators, bystanders, and the protection of property. Safety precautions include the careful coordination and use of radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished by the FCC's proposal, the remaining frequencies will become very congested and the margin of safety greatly decreased.

My largest model airplane has a wing span of over 7 feet and weighs 20 pounds. Other modelers in my club have planes with wing spans of over 10 feet and weighing as much as 40 pounds. Yes, these models are expensive to build; but, more to the point, they are capable of causing extensive property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. When we fly our models at organized events and contests, there are

The 4 models I presently operate represent an investment of close to \$4,000 and many hundreds of hours of construction and maintenance. While the FCC may not think modelers are as important as business users of radios, we have a considerable investment in our models and radio equipment. Our hobby provides many thousands of jobs and livelihoods for the model retailers, distributors, and

FEB 16 1993

2/6/93

The Honorable Mr. Floyd Spence
U.S. House Of Representatives;
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Spence;

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

February 3, 1993
2517 Burney Drive
Columbia, S. C. 29205

If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the

Robert E. Holman Jr.
2408 Pleasant Ridge Drive
Columbia, SC 29209

FEB 11 1993

Representative Floyd D. Spence
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

